

Substitute Bill No. 1328

January Session, 2007

\*\_\_\_\_\_SB01328JUD\_\_\_043007\_\_\_\_\_^

## AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 16-47 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
- 3 passage):

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

(a) As used in this section [,] and section 2 of this act, (1) "holding company" means any corporation, association, partnership, trust or similar organization, or person which, either alone or in conjunction and pursuant to an arrangement or understanding with one or more other corporations, associations, partnerships, trusts or similar organizations, or persons, directly or indirectly, controls a gas, electric, electric distribution, water, telephone or community antenna television company, [. As used in this section,] and (2) "control" means the possession of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a gas, electric, electric distribution, water, telephone or community antenna television company or a holding company, whether through the ownership of its voting securities, the ability to effect a change in the composition of its board of directors or otherwise, provided, control shall not be deemed to arise solely from a revocable proxy or consent given to a person in response to a public proxy or consent solicitation made pursuant to and in accordance with 20 the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities Exchange Act of 21 1934 unless a participant in said solicitation has announced an 22 intention to effect a merger or consolidation with, reorganization, or 23 other business combination or extraordinary transaction involving the 24 gas, electric, electric distribution, water, telephone or community 25 antenna television company or the holding company. Control shall be 26 presumed to exist if a person directly or indirectly owns ten per cent or 27 more of the voting securities of a gas, electric, electric distribution, 28 water, telephone or community antenna television company or a 29 holding company, provided the department may determine, after 30 conducting a hearing, that said presumption of control has been 31 rebutted by a showing that such ownership does not in fact confer 32 control.

- Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) As used in this section, "affiliate" means a person, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or class of persons that, with a gas company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, is under the control of the same holding company, or a person or class of persons that the Department of Public Utility Control determines to stand in such relation to a gas company that there is liable to be an absence of arm's length bargaining in transactions between them as to make it necessary to protect ratepayers.
- (b) The Department of Public Utility Control shall establish a code of conduct that sets minimum standards for gas company transactions with affiliates to achieve, at a minimum, the following goals:
- (1) Provide rules for when the purchases or sales of goods or services between a gas company and an affiliate should be by written contract based on such factors as the nature, value and term of the purchase or sale;
- (2) Provide rules with respect to sharing or giving access to certain types of customer identifying or commercially sensitive information to

33 34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

- 52 affiliates that may differ between regulated and unregulated affiliates;
- 53 (3) Provide for a system of records and reporting for transactions 54 between a gas company and its affiliates;
- 55 (4) Establish standards to ensure that any payment by a gas 56 company to any affiliate or from any affiliate to a gas company is 57 appropriate and reasonable;
- 58 (5) Provide a standard for avoidance of conflict of interest between a gas company and affiliates;
  - (6) Ensure that any such transactions shall not have an improper and adverse impact on the costs or revenues of the gas company, on the rates and charges paid by gas company customers or on the quality of service provided by the gas company;
- 64 (7) Ensure that gas company ratepayers do not subsidize affiliate 65 operations;
  - (8) Ensure fair, appropriate and equitable standards for purchases, sales, leases, asset transfers and cost or profit-sharing transactions or any type of financing or encumbrance involving a gas company and its affiliates; and
  - (9) Ensure that gas supply and distribution services are provided by a gas company in an appropriate manner to affiliates and nonaffiliates alike.
  - (c) In addition to the powers granted to the department in section 16-8c of the general statutes, during a rate proceeding under 16-19 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the department may summon witnesses from an affiliate with which a gas company has had direct or indirect transactions, examine the affiliate under oath and order production, inspection and audit of its books, records or other information relevant to any transaction that the department has reason to believe has or will have an adverse impact on the costs and revenues of the affiliated gas company. Proprietary commercial and proprietary

61

62

63

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

- financial information of an affiliate provided pursuant to this section shall be confidential and protected by the department, subject to the provisions of section 1-210 of the general statutes.
  - (d) Each gas company shall submit to the department records and such information as the department may require, at intervals determined by the department and in such form as the department may order regarding affiliate transactions.
  - (e) The department may, upon its own motion, investigate a gas company's compliance with the code of conduct, and any such investigation shall be a contested case, as defined in section 4-166 of the general statutes.
- (f) The department may make orders to enforce the code of conduct, including, but not limited to, cease and desist orders and may levy civil penalties pursuant to section 16-41 of the general statutes against entities subject to the code of conduct.
  - (g) The code of conduct shall not prohibit communications necessary to restore gas company service or to prevent or respond to emergency conditions.
  - (h) On or before November 1, 2007, the department shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish the code of conduct in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, related accounting and reporting requirements and procedures for gas company and affiliate compliance with this section.
  - (i) Any methodology for the allocation of costs between a gas company and other companies under the control of the same holding company currently approved by, or under current orders issued by, the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005, shall be entitled to a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness.

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

- 113 Charges rendered to a gas company by an affiliate that is a traditional
- centralized service company shall be at cost and entitled to a rebuttable
- 115 presumption of reasonableness.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (h) of section 16-19b of the general statutes is
- 117 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
- 118 passage):
- (h) The Department of Public Utility Control shall continually
- monitor and oversee the application of the purchased gas adjustment
- 121 clause, the energy adjustment clause, and the transmission rate
- adjustment clause. [The] For the energy adjustment and transmission
- 123 <u>adjustment clauses, the</u> department shall hold a public hearing thereon
- whenever the department deems it necessary or upon application of
- 125 <u>the Office of Consumer Counsel</u>, but no less frequently than once
- every six months. [, and] For the purchase gas adjustment clause, the
- 127 <u>department shall hold a public hearing thereon whenever the</u>
- 128 department deems it necessary or upon application of the Office of
- 129 Consumer Counsel, but no less frequently than annually. The
- 130 <u>department shall</u> undertake such other proceeding thereon to
- determine whether charges or credits made under such clauses reflect
- the actual prices paid for purchased gas or energy and the actual
- transmission costs and are computed in accordance with the applicable
- clause. If the department finds that such charges or credits do not
- reflect the actual prices paid for purchased gas or energy, and the
- actual transmission costs or are not computed in accordance with the
- applicable clause, it shall recompute such charges or credits and shall
- direct the company to take such action as may be required to insure
- that such charges or credits properly reflect the actual prices paid for
- 140 purchased gas or energy and the actual transmission costs and are
- 141 computed in accordance with the applicable clause for the applicable
- 142 period.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 16-19 of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
- 145 passage):

(a) No public service company may charge rates in excess of those previously approved by the authority or the Department of Public Utility Control except that any rate approved by the Public Utilities Commission or the authority shall be permitted until amended by the authority or the department, that rates not approved by the authority or the department may be charged pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and that the hearing requirements with respect to adjustment clauses are as set forth in section 16-19b, as amended by this act. Each public service company shall file any proposed amendment of its existing rates with the department in such form and in accordance with such reasonable regulations as the department may prescribe. Each electric, electric distribution, gas or telephone company filing a proposed amendment shall also file with the department an estimate of the effects of the amendment, for various levels of consumption, on the household budgets of high and moderate income customers and customers having household incomes not more than one hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level. Each electric and electric distribution company shall also file such an estimate for space heating customers. Each water company, except a water company that provides water to its customers less than six consecutive months in a calendar year, filing a proposed amendment, shall also file with the department a plan for promoting water conservation by customers in such form and in accordance with a memorandum of understanding entered into by the department pursuant to section 4-67e. Each public service company shall notify each customer who would be affected by the proposed amendment, by mail, at least one week prior to the public hearing thereon but no earlier than four weeks prior to the start of the public hearing, that an amendment has been or will be requested. Such notice shall also indicate (1) [the Department of Public Utility Control] the date or dates, time or times and location or locations of the scheduled public hearing, (2) a statement that customers may provide comments regarding the proposed rate request by writing to the Department of Public Utility Control or by appearing in person at one of the scheduled public hearings, (3) the department's telephone number for obtaining information concerning the schedule

146

147

148

149150

151

152

153

154

155

156

157

158

159

160

161

162

163

164

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

176

177

178

for public hearings on the proposed amendment, and [(2)] (4) whether the proposed amendment would, in the company's best estimate, increase any rate or charge by twenty per cent or more, and, if so, describe in general terms any such rate or charge and the amount of the proposed increase, provided no such company shall be required to provide more than one form of the notice to each class of its customers. In the case of a proposed amendment to the rates of any public service company, the department shall hold a public hearing thereon, except as permitted with respect to interim rate amendments by subsection (d) and subsection (g) of this section, and shall make such investigation of such proposed amendment of rates as is necessary to determine whether such rates conform to the principles and guidelines set forth in section 16-19e, or are unreasonably discriminatory or more or less than just, reasonable and adequate, or that the service furnished by such company is inadequate to or in excess of public necessity and convenience. The department, if in its opinion such action appears necessary or suitable in the public interest may, and, upon written petition or complaint of the state, under direction of the Governor, shall, make the aforesaid investigation of any such proposed amendment which does not involve an alteration in rates. If the department finds any proposed amendment of rates to not conform to the principles and guidelines set forth in section 16-19e, or to be unreasonably discriminatory or more or less than just, reasonable and adequate to enable such company to provide properly for the public convenience, necessity and welfare, or the service to be inadequate or excessive, it shall determine and prescribe, as appropriate, an adequate service to be furnished or just and reasonable maximum rates and charges to be made by such company. In the case of a proposed amendment filed by an electric, electric distribution, gas or telephone company, the department shall also adjust the estimate filed under this subsection of the effects of the amendment on the household budgets of the company's customers, in accordance with the rates and charges approved by the department. The department shall issue a final decision on each rate filing within one hundred fifty days from the proposed effective date thereof, provided it may, before the end of

181 182

183

184185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

- such period and upon notifying all parties and intervenors to the proceedings, extend the period by thirty days.
- Sec. 5. Section 16-22 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- 220 At any hearing involving a rate or the transfer of ownership of 221 assets or a franchise of a public service company, or the formation or 222 change in control of a holding company, as defined in section 16-47, as 223 amended by this act, that involves a public service company within this state, the burden of proving that [said] the rate under 224 225 consideration is just and reasonable or that [said] the transfer of assets 226 or franchise or that the change in control or formation of a holding 227 company is just and reasonable and is in the public interest shall be on 228 the public service company or the applicant company. The provisions 229 shall not apply the section to regulation 230 telecommunications service which is a competitive service, as defined 231 in section 16-247a.
- Sec. 6. Section 16-6a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):
- (a) The Department of Public Utility Control and the Office of Consumer Counsel are authorized to participate in proceedings before agencies of the federal government and the federal courts on matters affecting utility services rendered or to be rendered in this state.
- 238 [(b) For any proceeding before the Federal Energy Regulatory 239 Commission, the United States Department of Energy or the United 240 States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or appeal thereof, the 241 Attorney General, upon request of the department, may retain outside 242 legal counsel in accordance with section 3-125 to participate in such 243 proceedings on behalf of the department. All reasonable and proper 244 expenses of such outside legal counsel shall be borne by the public 245 service companies, certified telecommunications providers, electric 246 suppliers or gas registrants that are affected by the decisions of such 247 proceedings and shall be paid at such times and in such manner as the

department directs, provided such expenses shall be apportioned in proportion to the revenues of each affected entity as reported to the department for purposes of section 16-49 for the most recent period, and provided further such expenses shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars per proceeding, including any appeals thereof, in any calendar year unless the department finds good cause for exceeding the limit and the affected entities have an opportunity, after reasonable notice, to comment on the proposed overage. All such legal expenses shall be recognized by the department as proper business expenses of the affected entities for rate-making purposes, as provided in section 16-19e, if applicable.

(c) For any proceeding before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the United States Department of Energy, the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the United States Department of Justice or the Federal Communications Commission, or appeal thereof, the Attorney General, upon request of the Office of Consumer Counsel, may retain outside legal counsel in accordance with section 3-125 to participate in such proceedings on behalf of the office, provided the work performed on behalf of the office shall not include lobbying activities, as defined in 2 USC 1602. All reasonable and proper expenses of such outside legal counsel shall be borne by the public service companies, certified telecommunications providers, electric suppliers or gas registrants that are affected by the decisions of such proceedings and shall be paid at such times and in such manner as the office directs, provided such expenses shall be apportioned in proportion to the revenues of each affected entity as reported to the department for purposes of section 16-49 for the most recent period, and provided further such expenses shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars, including any appeals thereof, in any calendar year. The Department of Public Utility Control shall recognize all such legal expenses as proper business expenses of the affected entities for ratemaking purposes, as provided in section 16-19e, if applicable.]

(b) For any proceeding before the Federal Energy Regulatory

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

282 Commission, the United States Department of Energy, the United 283 States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the United 284 285 States Department of Justice or the Federal Communications 286 Commission, the Department of Public Utility Control and the Office 287 of Consumer Counsel may retain consultants to assist their respective 288 staffs in such proceedings by providing expertise in areas in which 289 staff expertise does not currently exist or when necessary to 290 supplement staff expertise. All reasonable and proper expenses of such 291 expert consultants shall be borne by the public service companies, certified telecommunications providers, electric suppliers or gas 292 293 registrants that are affected by the decisions of such proceedings and 294 shall be paid at such times and in such manner as the department 295 directs, provided such expenses (1) shall be apportioned in proportion 296 to the revenues of each affected entity as reported to the department 297 for purposes of section 16-49 for the most recent period, and (2) shall 298 not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars per proceeding, 299 including any appeals thereof, in any calendar year unless the 300 department finds good cause for exceeding the limit. All such expenses 301 shall be recognized by the department as proper business expenses of the affected entities for rate-making purposes pursuant to section 16-302 303 19e, if applicable.

- Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 16-262j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 307 (c) Each public service company, certified telecommunications 308 provider and electric supplier shall pay interest on any security 309 deposit it receives from a customer at the average rate paid, as of 310 December 30, 1992, on savings deposits by insured commercial banks 311 as published in the Federal Reserve Board bulletin and rounded to the 312 nearest one-tenth of one percentage point, except in no event shall the 313 rate be less than one and one-half per cent. On and after January 1, 314 1994, the rate for each calendar year shall be not less than the deposit 315 index as determined by the Banking Commissioner and, as defined in

304

305

- subsection (d) of this section, for that year and rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one percentage point, except in no event shall the rate be less than one and one-half per cent.
- Sec. 8. Subsection (c) of section 16-8a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (c) (1) Not more than [thirty] <u>ninety</u> business days after receipt of a written complaint, in a form prescribed by the department, by an employee alleging the employee's employer has retaliated against an employee in violation of subsection (a) of this section, the department shall make a preliminary finding in accordance with this subsection.
  - (2) Not more than five business days after receiving a written complaint, in a form prescribed by the department, the department shall notify the employer by certified mail. Such notification shall include a description of the nature of the charges and the substance of any relevant supporting evidence. The employer may submit a written response and both the employer and the employee may present rebuttal statements in the form of affidavits from witnesses and supporting documents and may meet with the department informally to respond verbally about the nature of the employee's charges. The department shall consider in making its preliminary finding as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection any such written and verbal responses, including affidavits and supporting documents, received by the department not more than twenty business days after the employer receives such notice. Any such response received after twenty business days shall be considered by the department only upon a showing of good cause and at the discretion of the department. The department shall make its preliminary finding as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection based on information described in this subdivision, without a public hearing.
  - (3) Unless the department finds by clear and convincing evidence that the adverse employment action was taken for a reason

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330331

332

333

334

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

unconnected with the employee's report of substantial misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that an employee was retaliated against in violation of subsection (a) of this section if the department finds that: (A) The employee had reported substantial misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in the management of the public service company, holding company or licensee; (B) the employee was subsequently discharged, suspended, demoted or otherwise penalized by having the employee's status of employment changed by the employee's employer; and (C) the subsequent discharge, suspension, demotion or other penalty followed the employee's report closely in time.

- (4) If such findings are made, the department shall issue an order requiring the employer to immediately return the employee to the employee's previous position of employment or an equivalent position pending the completion of the department's full investigatory proceeding pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
- Sec. 9. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 16-262c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (b) (1) From November first to April fifteenth, inclusive, no electric or electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, <u>as amended by this act</u>, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity shall terminate, <u>deny</u> or refuse to reinstate residential electric service in hardship cases where the customer lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account. From November first to April fifteenth, inclusive, no gas company and no municipal utility furnishing gas shall terminate or refuse to reinstate residential gas service in hardship cases where the customer uses such gas for heat and lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account, except a gas company that, between April sixteenth and October thirty-first, terminated gas service to a residential customer who uses gas for heat and who, during the previous period of November first to April fifteenth, had gas service maintained because

381 of hardship status, may refuse to reinstate the gas service from 382 November first to April fifteenth, inclusive, only if the customer has 383 failed to pay, since the preceding November first, the lesser of: (A) 384 Twenty per cent of the outstanding principal balance owed the gas 385 company as of the date of termination, (B) one hundred dollars, or (C) 386 the minimum payments due under the customer's amortization 387 agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of the general 388 statutes to the contrary, no electric, electric distribution or gas 389 company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing 390 electricity or gas shall terminate or refuse to reinstate residential 391 electric or gas service where the customer lacks the financial resources 392 to pay his or her entire account and for which customer or a member of the customer's household the termination or failure to reinstate such 393 394 service would create a life-threatening situation.

Sec. 10. Subdivision (30) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(30) "Electric supplier" means any person [, including an electric aggregator] or participating municipal electric utility that is licensed by the Department of Public Utility Control in accordance with section 16-245, as amended by this act, [that] and provides electric generation services to end use customers in the state using the transmission or distribution facilities of an electric distribution company, regardless of whether or not such person takes title to such generation services, but does not include: (A) A municipal electric utility established under chapter 101, other than a participating municipal electric utility; (B) a municipal electric energy cooperative established under chapter 101a; (C) an electric cooperative established under chapter 597; (D) any other electric utility owned, leased, maintained, operated, managed or controlled by any unit of local government under any general statute or special act; or (E) an electric distribution company in its provision of electric generation services in accordance with subsection (a) or, prior to January 1, 2004, subsection (c) of section 16-244c.

395

396

397

398

399

400

401

402

403

404

405

406

407

408

409

410

411

412

- Sec. 11. Subdivision (31) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 417 (31) "Electric aggregator" means [(A) a person, municipality or 418 regional water authority that any person, municipality, regional water 419 authority or the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority, if such 420 entity gathers together electric customers for the purpose of 421 negotiating the purchase of electric generation services from an electric 422 supplier, [or (B) the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, if it 423 gathers together electric customers for the purpose of negotiating the 424 purchase of electric generation services from an electric supplier, 425 provided such [person, municipality or authority] entity is not 426 engaged in the purchase or resale of electric generation services, and 427 provided further such customers contract for electric generation 428 services directly with an electric supplier, and may include an electric 429 cooperative established pursuant to chapter 597.
- Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (46) as follows (*Effective from passage*):
  - (NEW) (46) "Electric broker" means any person, municipality, regional water authority or the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, if such entity arranges or acts as an agent, negotiator or intermediary in the sale or purchase of electric generation services between any end use customer in the state and any electric supplier, but does not take title to any of the generation services sold, provided (A) such entity is not engaged in the purchase and resale of electric generation services, and (B) such customer contracts for electric generation services directly with an electric supplier, and may include an electric cooperative established pursuant to chapter 597.
- Sec. 13. Subsection (l) of section 16-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (l) (1) An electric aggregator or electric broker shall not be subject to

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

446 the provisions of subsections (a) to (k), inclusive, of this section.

- (2) No electric aggregator or electric broker shall arrange or negotiate a contract for the purchase of electric generation services from an electric supplier unless such aggregator or electric broker has [(A)] obtained a certificate of registration from the Department of Public Utility Control in accordance with this subsection. [, or (B) in the case of a municipality, regional water authority and the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, registered in accordance with section 16-245b.] An electric aggregator that was licensed pursuant to this section prior to July 1, 2003, shall receive a certificate of registration on July 1, 2003. An entity that has been issued an electric supplier license by the Department of Public Utility Control pursuant to subsections (a) to (k), inclusive, of this section may act as an electric aggregator or electric broker without having to obtain a certificate of registration in accordance with this subsection.
  - (3) An application for a certificate of registration shall be filed with the department, accompanied by a fee as determined by the department. The application shall contain such information as the department may deem relevant, including, but not limited to, the following: (A) The address of the applicant's headquarters and the articles of incorporation, if applicable, as filed with the state in which the applicant is incorporated; (B) the address of the applicant's principal office in the state, if any, or the address of the applicant's agent for service in the state; (C) the toll-free or in-state telephone number of the applicant; (D) information about the applicant's corporate structure, if applicable, including [financial names and financial statements, as relevant, concerning names and background information of corporate affiliates; (E) disclosure of whether the applicant or any of the applicant's corporate affiliates or officers, if applicable, have been or are currently under investigation for violation of any consumer protection law or regulation to which it is subject, either in this state or in another state. Each registered electric aggregator or electric broker shall update the information contained in this subdivision as necessary.

447

448

449

450

451

452

453

454

455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462

463

464

465

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

473

474

475

476

477

478

- (4) Not more than thirty days after receiving an application for a certificate of registration, the department shall notify the applicant whether the application is complete or whether the applicant must submit additional information. The department shall grant or deny the application for a certificate of registration not more than ninety days after receiving all information required of an applicant. The department shall hold a public hearing on an application upon the request of any interested party.
- (5) As a condition for maintaining a certificate of registration, the registered electric aggregator <u>or electric broker</u> shall ensure that, where applicable, it complies with the National Labor Relations Act and regulations, if applicable, and it complies with the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act and applicable regulations.
- (6) Any registered electric aggregator <u>or electric broker</u> that fails to comply with a registration condition or violates any provision of this section shall be subject to civil penalties by the Department of Public Utility Control in accordance with the procedures contained in section 16-41, or the suspension or revocation of such registration, or a prohibition on accepting new customers following a hearing that is conducted as a contested case in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.
- Sec. 14. Section 16-245b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 16-245, the provisions of said section shall not apply to (1) any municipality or regional water authority that aggregates or brokers the sale of electric generation services, or to the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority if such authority aggregates or brokers the sale of electric generation services, for end use customers located within the boundaries of such municipality or regional water authority, (2) any municipality that joins together with other municipalities to aggregate or broker the sale of electric generation services for end use customers

located within the boundaries of such municipalities, or (3) any municipality or regional water authority that aggregates <u>or brokers</u> the purchase of electric generation services for municipal facilities, street lighting, boards of education and other publicly-owned facilities within (A) the municipality for which the municipality is financially responsible, or (B) the municipalities that are within the authorized service area of the regional water authority. Any municipality or regional water authority that aggregates <u>or brokers</u> in accordance with this section shall register not less than annually with the Department of Public Utility Control on a form prescribed by the department.

Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 16-245p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) The Department of Public Utility Control shall maintain and make available to customers upon request, a list of electric aggregators and electric brokers and the following information about each electric supplier and each electric distribution company providing standard service or back-up electric generation service, pursuant to section 16-244c: (1) Rates and charges; (2) applicable terms and conditions of a contract for electric generation services; (3) the percentage of the total electric output derived from each of the categories of energy sources provided in subsection (e) of section 16-244d, the total emission rates of nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulates, heavy metals and other wastes the disposal of which is regulated under state or federal law at the facilities operated by or under long-term contract to the electric supplier or providing electric generation services to an electric distribution company providing standard service or back-up electric generation service, pursuant to section 16-244c, and the analysis of the environmental characteristics of each such category of energy source prepared pursuant to subsection (e) of [said] section 16-244d and to the extent such information is unknown, the estimated percentage of the total electric output for which such information is unknown, along with the word "unknown" for that percentage; (4) a record of customer complaints and the

512

513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

536

537

538

539

540

541

542

543

544

- disposition of each complaint; and (5) any other information the department determines will assist customers in making informed decisions when choosing an electric supplier. The department shall make available to customers the information filed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section not later than thirty days after its receipt. The department shall put such information in a standard format so that a customer can readily understand and compare the services provided by each electric supplier.
  - Sec. 16. Subdivision (19) of subsection (a) of section 22a-266 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (19) Act as an electric supplier, [or] an electric aggregator or an electric broker pursuant to public act 98-28\* provided any net revenue to the authority from activities, contracts, products or processes undertaken pursuant to this subdivision, after payment of principal and interest on bonds and repayment of any loans or notes of the authority, shall be distributed so as to reduce the costs of other authority services to the users thereof on a pro rata basis proportionate to costs paid by such users. In acting as an electric supplier, [or an] electric aggregator or electric broker pursuant to any license granted by the Department of Public Utility Control, the authority may enter into contracts for the purchase and sale of electricity and electric generation services, provided such contracts are solely for the purposes of ensuring the provision of safe and reliable electric service and protecting the position of the authority with respect to capacity and price.
- Sec. 17. Subsection (c) of section 7-148ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (c) No corporation established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall engage in the manufacture, distribution, purchase or sale, or any combination thereof, of electricity, gas or water outside the

service area of such municipal electric or gas utility or within its service area if it encroaches upon the service area or franchise area of another water or gas utility. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit any municipal electric utility to engage in the sale, [or] aggregation or brokering of electric generation services other than pursuant to section 16-245, as amended by this act.

Sec. 18. Subsection (b) of section 33-219 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, cooperative, nonprofit, membership corporations may be organized under this chapter for the purpose of generating electric energy by means of cogeneration technology, renewable energy resources or both and supplying it to any member or supplying it to, purchasing it from or exchanging it with a public service company, electric supplier, [as defined in section 16-1,] municipal aggregator, [as defined in said section] electric broker, municipal utility or municipal electric energy cooperative, all as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, in accordance with an agreement with the company, electric supplier, electric aggregator, electric broker, municipal utility or cooperative. No membership corporation under this subsection may exercise those powers contained in subsection (i) or (j) of section 33-221 unless the prior approval of the Department of Public Utility Control is obtained, after opportunity for hearing in accordance with title 16 and chapter 54. Any cooperative organized on or after July 1, 1998, pursuant to this subsection shall collect from its members the competitive transition assessment levied pursuant to section 16-245g and the systems benefits charge levied pursuant to section 16-245l in such manner and at such rate as the Department of Public Utility Control prescribes, provided the department shall order the collection of said assessment and said charge in a manner and rate equal to that to which the members of the cooperative would have been subject had the cooperative not been organized.

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

593

594

595

596

597598

599

600

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

- Sec. 19. Section 16-247p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Not later than April 1, 2000, the Department of Public Utility Control shall, by regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54, establish quality-of-service standards that shall apply to all telephone companies and certified telecommunications providers and to all telecommunications services. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to, measures relating to customer trouble reports, service outages, installation appointments and repeat problems as well as timeliness in responding to complaints or reports. The department shall include with the quality of service standards methodologies for monitoring compliance with and enforcement of such standards. Such monitoring shall include input from employees of telephone companies and certified telecommunications providers, including members of collective bargaining units.
  - (b) [Not later than April 1, 2000, the] The department shall, [by regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54] through administrative proceedings, establish comprehensive performance standards and performance based reporting requirements for functions provided by a telephone company to a certified telecommunications provider, including, but not limited to, telephone company performance relating to customer ordering, preordering, provisioning, billing, maintenance and repair. Such service standards shall be sufficiently comprehensive to ensure that a telephone company meets its obligations under 47 USC 251. Such [regulations] standards may also contain provisions the department deems necessary to prevent anticompetitive actions by any telephone company or certified telecommunications provider.
  - (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, the department shall not adopt performance standards and performance-based reporting requirements pursuant to subsection (b) of this section if a telephone company offers performance standards and measures to competitive local exchange carriers who obtain services pursuant to 47 USC 251.

This act sha	all take effect as follows	s and shall amend the following
Section 1	from passage	16-47(a)
Sec. 2	from passage	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	16-19b(h)
Sec. 4	from passage	16-19(a)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2007	16-22
Sec. 6	July 1, 2007	16-6a
Sec. 7	from passage	16-262j(c)
Sec. 8	from passage	16-8a(c)
Sec. 9	from passage	16-262c(b)(1)
Sec. 10	from passage	16-1(a)(30)
Sec. 11	from passage	16-1(a)(31)
Sec. 12	from passage	16-1(a)
Sec. 13	from passage	16-245(l)
Sec. 14	from passage	16-245b
Sec. 15	from passage	16-245p(b)
Sec. 16	from passage	22a-266(a)(19)
Sec. 17	from passage	7-148ee(c)
Sec. 18	from passage	33-219(b)
Sec. 19	from passage	16-247p

**ET** Joint Favorable Subst.

JUD Joint Favorable

LCO